



## Visualization

### Why is visualization important in numeracy?

- Numeracy allows us to acquire, create, connect and understand information. Thinking in pictures and images (visualizing) helps us to understand ideas and make connections.
- We can visualize concepts dealing with numbers, spatial information (connections between people, activities, and/or locations) and measurement. Visualizing helps us to make decisions in everyday life.
- Using manipulatives (physical objects) to represent thinking helps children understand relationships between items. Children gain a better understanding of numeracy relationships by using manipulatives to represent their thinking.

### Find out more:

- Watch these videos to find out more:
  - [Alberta Education: Numeracy Video](#)
  - [Alberta Education: My Child's Math A Guide for Parents](#)
- Read about helping to develop visualization: [The 7 Mathematical Processes: Visualization](#)

### How can I help my child?

Together with your child, try these activities:

- Write out a number of items, books or toys. Have your child choose one and draw it. See if you can guess what their drawings are representing.
- Cut up a magazine picture in shapes and have your child put the picture back together.
- Make a model of something using wooden sticks, playing cards or paper.
- Play memory games using cards or objects.
- Build with blocks or other building materials. Help your child duplicate the structure.
- Make shapes using playdough. Try rolling it out into a log, then slice into two pieces, three pieces, etc. Compare the pieces.
- Paint a shape that would cover most of the paper, half of the paper, a little bit of the paper and then compare paintings.
- Play puzzle games.
- Play Spot the Difference. Describe the differences between two nearly identical images including telling where to look in the pictures.
- Talk to your child's teacher about how visualization is developed and practiced in the classroom.

This resource is protected under copyright with all rights reserved by the Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools (“EPSB”). EPSB permits its teachers and staff, as well as third-parties, to use said resource for the purpose of individual classroom training or advancing general educational interests, without seeking permission. Any and all alteration, modification, distribution, transmission, public performance or display, or other exploitation of said resource in any form or any means in whole or in part, in its original or any other form, is expressly prohibited without the prior written permission of EPSB. © 2020 Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools.

Every effort has been made to trace ownership of all copyrighted material and to secure permission from copyright holders. In the event of any question arising as to the use of any materials, we will be pleased to make necessary corrections in future printings.

EPSB is not responsible for any outcome deriving from your use of or reliance on this resource, whereby all such use or reliance, if any, is at your sole risk. EPSB retains the right to update new editions.

Last updated: March 2020